

5th Batch of Baba Budha Amarnath Yatra flagged off from Jammu

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JAMMU: The fifth batch of the Baba Budha Amarnath Yatra was ceremonially flagged off on Friday in Jammu. On this occasion, Rajesh Chhibber, Trustee of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), gave the green signal to the convoy of pilgrims and offered his heartfelt blessings. He extended good wishes to all the Shiva devotees who have come from across the country and prayed to Baba Chattani for the safety and spiritual fulfillment of their journey. Neeraj Deenoria, National Convenor of the Bajrang Dal, was also present as the Chief Guest for the event. The yatra, which commenced on 27th July 2025, will continue



until 9th August, culminating on the day of Raksha Bandhan when the sacred Chhari Mubarak will reach the Baba Budha Amarnath Temple in Mandi, Poonch district. This traditional pilgrimage holds immense religious importance and draws devotees from various parts of India

each year. This year's batch includes a total of 1,342 pilgrims, comprising 917 men, 451 women, and 26 children. Pilgrims have traveled from various regions such as Chittor (119), Saurashtra (410), Jammu (160), Vidarbha (55), Kanpur (451), West Odisha (112), Jharkhand (8), and others (27). Many organizational leaders and yatra coordinators are guiding and supporting the pilgrims on this sacred journey. Among them are Janmejay, Regional Convenor from Patna, and Jijesh Ji Pateri, Regional Convenor from Bengaluru.

Vijay Bajrang, Provincial Balopasana Pramukh, is serving as the Yatra Pramukh, and Rajan Singh is the Provincial Yatra Prabhari. From Saurashtra, Nanji Bhai Sakh and Lakha Bhai are managing coordination, while Soumyaranjan Mishra is overseeing arrangements for pilgrims from West Odisha. Bharat Sahu is leading the contingent from Chhattisgarh. In terms of logistics, a total of 30 vehicles have been arranged for the pilgrimage. These include 3 buses from Akhnoor, 25 buses from Jammu, one car, and one traveler van. The arrangements have been made to ensure the comfort and safety of all participants.



Day 2 of Viksit Bharat sees 1,000 voices rise against drug abuse JU organises youth-oriented programmes focusing heritage, skills, drug-free society



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JAMMU: On the second day of the ambitious Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme (VBYCP), Vice Chancellor, Prof Umesh Rai today flagged off a mega rally. Besides, scholars, faculty, students and others, SP South, Ajay Sharma, SP Traffic Jammu city, Arvind Kotwal, Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies, and Prof Sangita Gupta. Dean Planning and Development, were present at the flag off ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Umesh Rai, observed that universities are not just places of academic learning but also powerful platforms for shaping values. "When students take the lead in campaigns like Nasha Mukh Bharat, it sends a strong message to society," he said and added, "Our collective stand today is not just symbolic-it is a necessary step in creating awareness and building a culture where students feel supported, informed, and strong enough to say no to drugs." Prof Rai said that crime and terrorism have a deep connection. "If we want to end crime and terrorism, then we need to become drug-free," said Vice Chancellor, adding "Everyone has to contribute in it. This is an unconventional war. This is a conspiracy to destroy India. If every citizen of India makes this a mission, then I think we will definitely succeed in ending this war." Earlier, the day began with holding of a series of youth-oriented events with focus on heritage, skills and drug free society. The main event witnessed participation of scholars, faculty, officers and students from various schools and colleges from across Jammu. The day began with an inspiring lecture by the well-known youth expert and motivational speaker Swati Basotra, who addressed the students at the Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium. Swati Basotra exhorted students to bring the values of Bharat into their everyday thinking and conversations. Referring to the idea of Chetna (awareness), she reminded the young audience that conscious thought rather than instinct is what makes us

human. Through stories from Indian epics, she highlighted the need for humility, openness, and purpose-driven life and highlighted the greatest gifts of Bharat to the world -- Dharma (righteousness) and Shiksha (education), which represent truth, kindness, and fairness. Later, Dr. Pankaj Rastogi, Regional Director, Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Workers Education and Development (DTNB-WED), Ministry of Labour and Employment, GoI shared useful information about government welfare schemes for youth. He explained the National Career Service (NCS) portal in making job-searching accessible, easier and quicker. Drawing on international studies, he emphasized on qualities like analytical thinking, communication and adaptability. These soft skills play a critical role in long-term success besides the technical qualifications, he added. He urged the students to build these skills in early stage of their life, as these are important components along with their degrees. He called upon the need for gender-inclusive labour policies in achieving the goal of developed India by 2047. The day also included an elocution competition where students from various institutions of Jammu shared their ideas about future of India and their role they hope to play in nation building. The students also participated in an essay writing competition on the topic, 'India@2047: My vision of a developed India empowered by young minds'. Around 10 schools from Jammu city and 70 colleges and University teaching departments are participating in various events being organized under Viksit Bharat Youth Connect Programme. A series of sports and cultural activities were also organized by the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education to reinvigorate the day. The day ended on a strong note with the participation of the faculty, staff and students in 'Nasha Mukh Bharat' Rally in support and commitment of a drug-free society. To mark the day, the students performed a Nukkad Natak, spreading a message of 'Nasha Mukh Bharat'.

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Progress in Every Corner**

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₹20,500+ Crore
to 9.71+ Crore Farmers
under the 20th installment of
Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi

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52 Development Projects worth ₹2,200 Crore
for upgrading civic amenities in Kashi

Distribution of assistive aids to
2,000+ Divyangjan and Senior Citizens

Launch of Kashi Sansad Pratiyogita
Registration Portal, Website and QR code

— by —
Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

— In the august presence of —
Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Dr. Virendra Kumar
Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India

Keshav Prasad Maurya
Deputy Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Brajesh Pathak
Deputy Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Suresh Kumar Khanna
Minister, Finance and Parliamentary Affairs, Uttar Pradesh

Surya Pratap Shahi
Minister, Agriculture, Agricultural Education and Agricultural Research, Uttar Pradesh

Anil Rajbhar
Minister, Labor and Employment, Co-ordination, Uttar Pradesh

Ravindra Jaiswal
Minister of State (Independent Charge), Stamp and Court Fee, Registration, Uttar Pradesh

Dr. Dayashankar Mishra 'Dayalu'
Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ayush, Food Security and Drug Administration (MOS), Uttar Pradesh

— and other dignitaries —

Date : 2nd August, 2025 | Time : 10:00 AM | Venue : Gram Sabha-Banauli (Kalika Dham) Sewapuri, Varanasi

Major Projects for Inauguration

- Widening and strengthening of Varanasi-Bhadohi road to 4 lanes
- Clean drinking water projects in 47 Gram Panchayats under Jal Jeevan Mission
- 2-lane railway overbridge on Mohansarai-Adalpura Road near Hardattpur Railway Station
- Redevelopment of 8 kutcha ghats along the Ganga River through CSR initiatives
- Installation of robotic surgery unit, 2 radiation machines and a CT scan machine at Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya Cancer Centre

Major Projects for Foundation Stone Laying

- Widening and strengthening of Dalmandi Road
- Government Homeopathic Medical College & Hospital
- Railway overbridge at Level Crossing No. 22C on Phulpur-Sindhora Road near Khalispur Yard on Varanasi-Zafarabad Rail Section
- Road from Kachhwa Road via Kapsethi-Babatpur to Chaubepur
- Widening and strengthening of the road from Chhitampur to Rajwadi via Dhaurahara

Kaam Damdaar- Double Engine Sarkar

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